The exotic silk road began in China in 2600 B.C., winding its way to Korea, India, Japan, Italy, and finally England by AD 1440. Throughout this period the road was laden with intrigue and politics, as countries vied to steal the secrets of silk making. Silk production in one’s own country would eliminate the expensive purchase of it from one’s enemies and the resulting loss of gold from the country’s coffers. From the 1600s through the 1700s attempts were made to extend the silk road across the Atlantic Ocean, where climates in the southeastern colonies of North America were deemed perfect for sericulture and Native American, Africans, African-Americans, and immigrant communities were targeted as potential silk workers for this exotic industry. Great Britain failed to realize that neither the climate nor Native Americans nor Africans were perfect for the venture. Immigrants, such as the Salzburgers of New Ebenezer, the Huguenots of Purysburg, and colonists in Savannah were more amenable to the concept, however, with the pious Salzburgers being the most persistently successful. The story of how the silk road winded to the gates of New Ebenezer is a fascinating one.

The route of the silk road to New Ebenezer was encouraged by economic circumstances. Great Britain enacted a Mercantilism policy in an attempt to make as many raw materials in its colonies as possible to benefit the homeland. Its push to make the southern colonies of North America raise grapes and silkworms was a prime example of its desire to make raw ingredients and ship them back to England where they would be made into wine and silk and sold for large amounts of money as value-added items. In addition, it kept money, which was in specie as gold and silver, in the country. Ironically, therefore most silk made in colonial America was never worn by its makers. One rare example is Eliza Lucas Pinckney’s silk dress.

When James Habersham wrote to colonial Governor James Wright in 1771 he penned, “…the Culture of Raw Silk is an object of so great National Importance…”. This importance was reflected in the subsidies the British government gave for silk production. The government subsidized the industry from the 1740s to 1772. Subsidies varied according to the quality of the silk cocoons. Bounties peaked in 1751 when one pound of cocoons could garner from 6 pence for third rate cocoons to 2 shillings for first quality cocoons. Subsidies given to the Salzburgers to learn silk production, to several Italians to teach silk production, and to producers of silk cocoons and thread was a relatively inexpensive expenditure in contrast to the £500,000 the British paid to Italians for silk.

The British desire to reduce or eliminate the purchase of silk from other countries was reflected in the national thought and mirrored in this 1736 poem,

“Of thy young province to oblige the fair; Here tend the silkworm in the verdant shade. The frugal matron and the blooming maid.”
These mere three lines reference the young province of Georgia, the environmental needs of the silkworm, and the necessity of older women teaching young girls the art and science of silk production.

The manipulation of caterpillar secretions into threads and ultimately luxurious silk fabric was an amazing feat of skill and timing. Any number of events, such as too warm a winter, too cold or hot a spring, lack of mulberry leaves, lack of silkworm eggs, and silkworm or mulberry tree diseases could, and often did threaten an entire season of work and profits.

Silkworm eggs and white (not native red) mulberry trees were imported from Europe and brought to New Ebenezer. There, the Morus alba white mulberry trees were planted and the Bombyx mori worms were bundled and stored to stay dormant over the winter. In the spring, when the mulberry leaves began sprouting the women would warm the eggs and they would hatch. The silk workers then began collecting and chopping tender new leaves to feed the newly hatched worms. Silkworms have a voracious appetite and required multiple feedings around the clock throughout the five stages of growth and molting during their life cycle. During these 26 days the worms from one ounce of eggs consumed 1,400 pounds of leaves. After the final stage the worms were ready to spin their cocoons. Silk workers made arbors for the worms to climb to ensure that no two worms were so close together that their cocoons intertwine.

After the spinning, the silk workers either baked the cocoons or put them in boiling water, which killed the chrysalis inside the cocoon before it ate its way through the threads and emerged as a moth. Once killed, the cocoons were submerged in hot water to release the natural glues holding the cocoon fibers together. The women then used a reeling machine to take the extremely fine fibers from multiple cocoons and twist them together into one thread. The silk thread was then shipped to England to be made into silk fabric and sold for large amounts of money. Silk workers always allowed a certain percentage of chrysalids to turn into moths and emerge from the cocoons. This allowed the moths to immediately mate, lay eggs, and die. One ounce of eggs could hatch into 37,500 worms. The eggs were then wrapped and stored throughout the summer and winter months, where they were kept dormant until the following spring when the process was repeated.

That the Salzburgers seriously heeded the Georgia Trustees’ call to make silk is evident in their actions. In 1736, the year they moved to New Ebenezer and were challenged to build houses, clear fields, and plant crops, the Salzburgers planted white mulberry trees necessary for providing leaves for the silkworms to eat. Six years later, in 1742 they planted 500 mulberry trees to help spur the industry and they shipped over 14 pounds of silk and cocoons to Savannah. The first reeling machine allowed them to eliminate shipping the easily damaged cocoons, by enabling them to unwind the cocoons and ship only the resulting thread. Between 1744 and 1750 the Trustees sent the industrious Salzburgers another two reeling machines and accompanying copper basins. This allowed the women and children at New Ebenezer to produce over 146 pounds of silk during that six year period. By 1752 Boltzius reported that there was no more room in the attics of the houses to raise any more silkworms and the British Trustees answered the call to fund a filature, or silk factory, similar to those typical in Europe.
Boltzius’ description of the filature reveals that the two story building measured 42 feet by 22 feet and sat on a lot about five times that size that was enclosed by a strong cypress fence. A seven foot square well house protected the 21 foot deep, cypress-lined well. Trustee funds also furnished the filature with appropriate equipment. This included kettles, cauldrons, and reeling machines that the women and children used to dissolve the natural glues in the cocoons, allowing them to unwind and twist multiple filaments into single threads. A separate oven measuring 9.5 by 9 feet enabled workers to kill the chrysalises inside the cocoons before the moths could damage them by eating their way out through the filaments.

As early as 1741, Salzburger women and orphans had been raising silkworms in the attics of their houses and the orphanage as a cottage industry. This was an amazing feat because they were successful, even though the delicate worms could not withstand high temperatures and humidity. (And we all know how hot an attic can get here even on an April afternoon!) This problem was surpassed by the limitations of space in the attics. By 1747, New Ebenezer produced half of the 800 pounds of cocoons shipped to Savannah.

As early as 1743 Boltzius applied for a grant from the Georgia Trustees to “…build a house for raising [sic] silk.” One year later the Trustees built a filature, but it was in Savannah, not at Ebenezer. The Salzburgers were not authorized funds for a filature until 1751 and the building was completed in July 1752. With the construction of such a specialized building, the Salzburgers ushered in the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution. Here was a structure in which every step of the silk making process was completed in one place, from hatching the eggs to feeding the worms to unwinding the cocoons to reeling the filaments into thread. Another milestone represented by the silk filature was that for the first time the work force of women and children left their homes and went to work outside of the home in a factory setting.

Filature construction also occurred outside of Georgia during this period. Benjamin Franklin advocated for a silk filature in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and in 1750 one opened there. So Ebenezer was definitely on the cutting edge of industrial technology during this period. The simple machines in the filature—the reeling machines and customized cauldrons—heralded the pending use of more complicated technology in the textile industry as a whole.

The Salzburgers valued their new factory and sought to protect it from possible damage. In 1757, five years after the construction of the Ebenezer filature William DeBrahm oversaw the construction of a fort around portions of New Ebenezer. This included the silk filature. The Ebenezer filature outpaced others, including the one in Philadelphia. In 1771, the Philadelphia filature processed 2,300 lbs. of silk cocoons, which by Ebenezer standards, was a very modest production for that region. Statistics for silk production are difficult to compile. This is due to a variety of factors, including incomplete records, insufficient notations regarding the origin of cocoons arriving at filatures, and silk production totals recorded sometimes by cocoon weight and sometimes by weight of finished, reeled silk. In spite of these variations, some comparisons can be made as reflected in this slide.

Political rivalries abounded during the colonial period. Rivalries between South Carolina and Georgia began with the establishment of Georgia and continue through today. Tensions between
New Ebenezer and Savannah were also noticeable during the colonial period. The economic rivalries between towns and colonies extended to the silk industry.

Silk producers in Purysburg, South Carolinia, were forced to ship cocoons to Savannah prior to 1752 and to either Savannah or New Ebenezer between 1752 and circa 1766. During this period, in 1758, the filature at Savannah was consumed in a fire, but was rebuilt in 1761. It wasn’t until after 1766 that Charleston constructed its own silk filature. It may have been this rivalry that goaded South Carolina into finally building its own filature. An article in 1766 in the Connecticut Gazette stated, “It is not unworthy of publick notice that about 6,000 pounds weight of cocoons, which have been annually made at Purrysburg, and carried to the filature at Savannah, have always been shipped from thence as the product of Georgia”.

Ebenezer’s silk production had not only technological ramifications, but social and economic ones. Silk production at New Ebenezer helped mark the beginning of the evolution from the European model of apprenticeship, guilds, and the passing of craft traditions through families to the model of mass production of goods by common workers in the industrial revolution. As far back as the 15th century, one could become a Master silk reeler only following 4-7 years of apprenticeships and the passing of a difficult entrance test. Guilds in northern Italy had extensive rules regarding silk reeling machinery, processing, and the qualifications of silk reelers. This helped assure quality reeling to produce the highest quality silk thread and cloth. In fact, silk produced by the Italian Piedmontese dominated the European market for 150 years. It is no wonder, then, that virtually every person Boltzius contracted to teach silk reeling to Salzburger women and girls, consciously or subconsciously sabotaged the lessons. This included the Italian Piedmontese silk trainers. It undoubtedly galled the master silk reelers that they were expected to trade the years of apprenticeships, experience, and guild traditions for a few weeks of lessons to peasant immigrants in the wilds of colonial Georgia.

The idea of teaching females, however, was never an issue, as master reelers in Europe, the Middle East, the Mediterranean, and Asia were traditionally female throughout history. There were only two places in Europe that recognized men as master silk reelers. These were Sicily and Calabria, both in southern Italy. Archival documents clearly show that women were considered silk experts around the world and responded well to the in delicate task of handling silkworms, cocoons, and filament. One document reveals that an Italian couple employed to oversee Spanish silk production in the 1700s made an unequal salary, with the wife earning more than the husband. Rare instances of attempts to change silk production from women’s to men’s work resulted in a decline in both quality and productivity, as reflected in a silk operation in Tuscany in the mid-1800s. Even the rare male master reelers in Sicily and Calabria used female labor.

Boltzius continued this tradition of women silk producers. In doing this, he was maintaining a centuries-old successful tradition, while enabling additional income for widows and women who might not be fully employed in agricultural pursuits. It was especially fitting that Boltzius’ wife, Catherine, took the lead in learning how to produce silk and showing by example that it could be a profitable venture. Interestingly, silk making at New Ebenezer was wholly run by women for years and it wasn’t until the construction of the filature, or silk house, that a man was put in charge of the women’s labor. In fairness to Ebenezer’s menfolk, they built the filature building,
constructed and installed the reeling equipment, and likely planted and harvested many of the mulberry trees.

What happened to the silk filature at Ebenezer? Surprisingly, as early as 1765 Georgia’s Governor Wright describes Ebenezer’s filature as, “a pretty good Filature”, that was, “through disuse is now much out of repair”; Wright recommended building another filature at Ebenezer to contain “stages or shelves for the cocoons”. In spite of this statement, the following year was a peak silk production year for Georgia and is almost certain that the Salzburger’s played an integral part in the 20,000 pounds of cocoons produced in the colony and in the 2,500 pounds of raw silk produced the following year.

In 1771 James Habersham reported that the equipment from the dormant silk filature at Ebenezer was dispersed throughout the community. This suggests that the women and girls continued to make silk, but were now doing so back in their attics.

By the late 18th century the Savannah Filature appears to have fared only slightly better than the one at New Ebenezer. By 1787 a Pennsylvania newspaper briefly discussed silk production in Georgia noting, “at present this manufacture is disregarded, the House called the Filature, in a state of decay, and of no use but to serve sometimes as a theatre for strolling players”. Savannah’s silk filature survived as late as 1799 (and possibly as late as 1839). In May, 1791 the filature building was used to host a ball for President Georgia Washington on his southern tour:

“The evening ball was held in the Long Room of the Filature, a large building on Reynolds Square erected in the 1750s and used for silk manufacturing until about 1770 when it became a public assembly hall. GW arrived at the ball at 8:30 P.M., "and was personally introduced," according to a newspaper account, "to 96 ladies, who were elegantly dressed, some of whom displayed infinite taste in the emblems and devices on their sashes and head dresses, out of respect to the happy occasion. The room, which had been lately handsomely fitted up, and was well lighted, afforded the President an excellent opportunity of viewing the fair sex of our city and vicinity, and the ladies the gratification of paying their respects to our Federal Chief. After a few minuets were moved, and one country dance led down, the President and his suite retired about 11 o'clock. At 12 o'clock the supper room was opened, and the ladies partook of a repast, after which dances continued until 3 o'clock”.

In 1839, Savannah’s silk filature building was again was consumed by fire, as reported in a Boston newspaper:

“the old building on Reynold’s square, on the lot known as the old filature lot, was, in flames, the roof having caught from a spark wafted several hundred yards across the river, which igniting like tinder, threatened a serious conflagration …”.
Ironically, the destruction of the Savannah filature occurred during the first of many attempts to revive a silk industry in America. In the 1830s silk enthusiasts in America touted the silk industry as a viable business enterprise. William Prince of New York even put this concept into poetry, writing,

“If ye aspire to wealth and ease, Stock well your farm with mulberry trees; This silk-worm will there worth unfold; And coin their foliage into gold”.

The U.S. silk industry revival of the nineteenth century would bypass Ebenezer. Silk production in Georgia and Effingham County had by this time reverted to an antiquated hobby. Pastor Philip Strobel remarked that several older residents of the Ebenezer community continued to make silk fishing line as late as the 1840s. While Ebenezer was exiting the silk industry, others such as the city of Baltimore, Maryland built a silk filature in 1833 and widely advertised in the American Farmer their desire to purchase cocoons.

The concept of a silk industry revival persisted into the late 1800s. In 1876 an expert wrote, “Some of the more sanguine silk-growers of California have proposed to employ Chinese labor in reeling, winding, cleaning, doubling and throwing the silk. But even this labor is too dear to compete with that of China and Japan, or perhaps with the peasant labor of France or Italy, in a business in which machinery cannot take the place of trained and skilled hand labor. In China or Japan, the skilled labor of the artisan, inherited through more than thirty centuries of the same kind of toil, is amply repaid by from five to ten cents a day: a sum which provides a daily abundance of food for a large family. A good reeler there will reel perfectly from one and a-half to two pounds of silk in a week, and is satisfied with receiving eight or ten cents a clay. Here, even the poorest Chinese reeler would demand from 75 cents to $1 a day. None of our Yankee girls would be willing to undertake it, though perfectly ignorant of the process, for less than a dollar a day. The waste from incompetent help would be very much larger than from the reeling of a skilled artisan”. This quote emphasizes the skills the Salzburger women and girls acquired a hundred years earlier.

By the late 1800s the United States had a substantial silk industry, although nearly all of the raw materials were imported from other countries. A Wisconsin newspaper reported this factoid in 1894, “Kansas has the only silk filature in the United States.

In 1989 we first discovered the archaeological ruins of Ebenezer’s silk filature. We started our search by excavating where the Effingham County surveyors indicated it to be, but it was not there. Our search shifted southward where we met with success. We used a battery of archaeological tools to identify and confirm this location, including a grid of systematically placed shovel tests, spaced 10 meters (about 35 feet) apart, and excavation of two small test units in 1990. The test units revealed numerous posts and shallow pits and a deposit of artifacts from the mid-1700s. In 2002 we returned to the filature site and conducted detailed topographic mapping, controlled metal detector survey, and ground penetrating radar survey. All of this exploration was done with an emphasis on locating the filature, and the majority of it awaits a thorough, well-funded archaeological study.
Our work thus far provides us with a guide map for future explorations on this site. We can take you to within a few meters of the filature building, we have a pretty good understanding of the location of the larger filature lot, we know the approximately location of the 1757 fortification that surrounded the filature, and we have some idea of the type of artifacts and features we can expect to find with a large scale excavation. While all of these components of our study were discoveries, they can be lumped into a broader category called “site planning”.

So now what? We first offered an excavation plan in 1993 at the urging of Georgia Salzburger Society member Vincent Exley. Through the years the momentum for the project has waxed and waned and in the interim, our understanding of the filature and its archaeological complexity has evolved. We propose a major historical archaeology undertaking at the silk filature to fully explore its secrets. If funding for this project can be secured, we are prepared to begin work in 2011. We would like to see this be a team effort that includes the Jerusalem Church, the Salzburger Society, teachers and educators, and the people of Effingham County.

The Ebenezer silk filature is a unique site type in the Americas. Few have survived archaeologically and none, we believe, have been excavated in this country. This site harbors secrets about the exotic beginnings of the Industrial Revolution in America and the role Salzburgers played in this national and global event. In addition, the filature building and its history represents the communal interests of the entire town, not any one family. Its importance to the Salzburgers is evident as it was second in stature and expense only to the church, and William DeBrahm included it within the 1757 fort walls.

There are many questions that may be answered by a study of the Ebenezer filature. Its archaeological remains appear well-preserved and display excellent potential for a full-scale excavation and public interpretation. Some of these questions deal with nuts and bolts, such as, “What did the filature look like?, What was the layout of the complex?, What “stuff” did the silk workers throw away?” Many of these types of questions can only be answered by archaeology. Other questions require historical research in various libraries and archives.

In order to create an accurate interpretation of the silk filature, we must first develop its historical context. This requires a close marriage of history and archaeology to reveal the Salzburger filature story. Many other important broader historical questions can be addressed once we establish the baseline historical and archaeological data. For example, “How much autonomy did the women have in this woman-operated business? Once silk production was moved to the filature, did it become a communal process, with workers being paid for the collective production of silk and the splitting of profits, or did each worker maintain and profit from her own worms? What effect did the emergence of industry and technology have on the Salzburgers? Did silk making at New Ebenezer change the economic, political, and social roles of the Salzburgers?”

Intensive archaeological excavation and research at the New Ebenezer’s unique and well-preserved silk filature can provide important and significant information unavailable in any other form. It has the potential to uncover as yet unknown stories about the Salzburgers’ role in colonial Georgia and the world. The Ebenezer Silk Project can provide this information in a variety of formats including excavation and lab experiences, teacher workshops, curriculum
lesson plans, site tours, exterior interpretive markers, information and artifacts for museum exhibits, website information, a technical report, and a book. After 20 years of discussion, we invite you to pick up this silk thread with us, follow it back to its historic roots at New Ebenezer, and unravel its many stories as we go.

Thank you!
Dawn of American Industry:

Ebenezer Silk

Daniel T. Elliott, President, The LAMAR Institute
Rita Folse Elliott, Curator of Exhibits & Archaeology, Coastal Heritage Society
The Silkworm at its full length

The silkworm coming out of its case

The Silk Cocoons

The Moth laying her Eggs

The Chrysalis

The Male & Female Moth Caterpillar

In this leaf is show the Silk Case
In 1734, eight pounds of silk was exported from Georgia, and made into rich brocade, and presented to the Queen—the cost of the manufacturing and dying the piece of goods was twenty pounds. From this time...
Tum frondes, ramo, fascibus; conditus,
Arrangement et recueillement des rees et des feuilles sur les clous.

Se voluit, et pile in modum se contrahit.
PREMIUMS offered for the Advantage of the British American Dominions by the Society instituted at London for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce.

SILK COCOONS.

For every pound wt. of cocoons produced in the province of Georgia and South Carolina in the year 1764, of a hardy, weighty, and good substance, wherein one worm only has spun, 3d.

For every pound wt. of cocoons produced in the same year, of a weaker, lighter, spotted or bruised quality, though one worm only has spun in them, 2d.

For every pound wt. of cocoons produced in the same year, wherein two worms have spun, one penny.

N. B. These premiums will be paid under the direction of Mr. Ottolenghe, superintendent of the silk culture in Georgia, to every person who shall bring his or her balls or cocoons to the publick sale at Savannah, upon proof being made, to the said Mr. Ottolenghe's satisfaction, by every person claiming such premium, that the cocoons for which the premium is claimed are of such claimant's own raising and produce; and the sum which shall be so paid by the society's correspondent as aforesaid, shall be reimbursed and repaid to him or his order by the society, upon receiving his account of the same properly attested.
**Silkworm** (*Bombyx mori*)
**White Mulberry** (*Morus alba*)

- Species maintained by sericulture
- Silkworm eggs brought from Europe
- Mulberry trees brought as seeds or seedlings from Europe
Hinc vermium permulta saepe millia
Simul legunt, parantque telas feminine.
Cognes ramosae et misae dans une espece de chaudiere, avec le Dividoir pour lever les Soyes.
Ebenezer in 1747. Blue Rectangle indicates Filature location.
Filature attributes:

- Filature lot measured 196 feet by 98 feet
- Filature was 42 feet by 22 feet and over 26 feet high

- Well was 21 feet deep, 6 feet in diameter and lined with cypress
- Well house measured 7 feet by 7 feet, 10 feet high

- Oven was 9.5 feet by 9 feet
- Equipment included kettles, cauldrons, reeling machines, trays, racks

- Silk lot enclosed by strong cypress fence
- By 1757 the lot was enclosed by large fortification
Timeline for Ebenezer Silk Filature

1741 - Silkworms raised in orphanage attic at Ebenezer
1743 - Reverend Boltzius applies for grant to “build a house for raising silk”
1744 - Silk filature built in Savannah
1751 - Ebenezer filature authorized
1752 - Ebenezer’s filature completed
1757 - Fort built at Ebenezer surrounding its filature
1758 - Fire consumes Savannah’s silk filature
1761 - Savannah’s second filature is accepting silk
1767 - Peak production year for silk in Georgia
1771 - Ebenezer filature shuts down
1816 - Large brick building salvaged at Ebenezer, possibly filature
1989 - Archaeologists discover filature ruins
2010 - Filature Fund Drive
Filature Shown on DeBrahm’s 1757 Map of Ebenezer
Pounds of Silk Exported from Georgia, 1752-1772.
Silk Production in 1756

- South Carolina: 40.30%
- Savannah: 27.10%
- New Ebenezer: 32.60%
“…And be it further enacted, That the Justices of the Inferior court, or any three of them, be and they are hereby authorised to sell and dispose of a decayed brick building in the town of Ebenezer, formerly used as a magazine, in such manner as they may deem most proper—the monies arising therefrom to be applied by the Justices aforesaid, for the purpose of aiding and completing the Court-House to be built in said county.”

--Benj. Whitaker
Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives
Assented to 12th December, 1816
WM. PRINCE & SON will make sales of Trees and Cuttings of the genuine Chinese Morus Múluculus, Morus Expana, Alpine, Brousse, Canton and other varieties, deliverable to the purchasers at such period in the spring as is convenient to them, and will enter into contracts accordingly. Prices and terms for the Trees and Cuttings will be forwarded to all who may apply for them by mail, as well as prices of Silk Worms Eggs, Mulberry Seeds, &c. The Muluculus Trees are remarkably vigorous, and as we first imported the genuine tree, purchasers are sure of obtaining the genuine kind — it is from this cause, and from the great attention paid by them, that the trees they have sold have given universal satisfaction.

Flushing, near New York, Feb 19. 

Feb 21-1m
What have we done thus far?

• Historical Research on silk

• Shovel Test Survey
  60 tests at 10 meter intervals

• Topographic Mapping

• Test Unit Excavation
  Block F (Two 2 x 1 meter holes)

• Metal Detector Survey

• Ground Penetrating Radar Survey
Shovel Testing of the Silk Filature

Map shows the average number of artifacts from shovel tests
Suspected filature lot shown here as blue rectangle
Shovel Testing of the Silk Filature

Map shows the average number of artifacts from shovel tests. Suspected filature location shown here as blue rectangle. Excavated area shown in bright red.
Approximate Location of Filature Building
Topographic Map of the Silk Filature

Suspected filature location shown here as blue rectangle
Excavated area shown in green
Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Survey of the Silk Filature

Sampled portion of Filature, its lot, and 1757 Fort

• Only 20% of Filature examined
• Area shown in blue may include fort moat
What have we found thus far?

Architectural Evidence
• Brick bats
• Wrought nails
• Window glass
• Features (posts & pits)

Personal Items
• Ceramics
• Glass
• Tobacco pipes

Military artifacts
• Bullets
What to Do?

• Compile thorough history of Ebenezer’s silk industry
• Develop a research context
• Conduct archaeological excavations on the filature lot
• Interpret these findings to the public
What do we expect to find?

- Evidence of the Filature building
- The Filature well
- Artifacts associated with silk making
- Artifacts discarded or lost by the workers
  - Evidence revealing daily life of women and children at Ebenezer.
  - Information related to women’s roles in Ebenezer economics and politics.
  - Evidence about the role silk production played in Ebenezer’s economy.
Libraries and Archives with Potential For Ebenezer Silk Research

• Smithsonian Institution, Museum of American History Library, Washington, DC
• Library of Congress, Washington, DC
• Arthur Jenkins Library of Textile Art, Textile Museum, Washington, DC
• American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA
• David Library, Washington Crossing, PA
• Winterthur Library, Wilmington, DE
• Yale University, New Haven, CT
• American Textile History Museum, Lowell, MA
• British Archives, Kew, England
• Francke Institute, Halle, Germany
• Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, GA
What were the working conditions in the filature?

What effect did the emergence of industry and technology have on the Salzburgers? For what length of time was the filature used, and for what purposes?

Did Salzburgers modify traditional Asian or European silk making tools or processes?

How were children affected by participating in silk production?

What differences were there at Ebenezer during the cottage industry stage and the filature stage of silk making?

Did silk making at New Ebenezer change the economic, political, and social roles of men and women?

What Might Archaeology at the New Ebenezer Silk Filature Tell Us?
Thank You!